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1	BEFUKE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
2	CARL J. KUNASEK 250 512 27 A. 10 49
3	Chairman JIM IRVIN AZ CORP COMMISSION
4	Commissioner WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
5	Commissioner
6	
7	IN THE MATTER OF:
8)
9	ARTHUR ANDERSEN L.L.P.) DOCKET NO. S-03386A-00-0000 501 North 44 th Street - 300)
10	Phoenix, Arizona 85008) NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A) HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED
11	Respondent. ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, FOR RESTITUTION, FOR
12) ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES AND) FOR OTHER RELIEF
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14	NOTICE: ARTHUR ANDERSEN L.L.P. HAS 10 DAYS TO REQUEST A HEARING.
15	The Securities Division (the "Division") of the Arizona Corporation Commission (the
16	"Commission") alleges that Respondent Arthur Andersen L.L.P. ("ARTHUR ANDERSEN")
17	engaged in and/or aided and abetted acts, practices and transactions that constitute violations of
18	A.R.S. § 44-1801 et seq., the Securities Act of Arizona (the "Securities Act").
19	The Division further alleges as follows:
20	I.
21	JURISDICTION
22	1. The Commission has jurisdiction over these matters pursuant to Article XV of the
23	Arizona Constitution and the Securities Act.
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II.

RESPONDENT

- 2. ARTHUR ANDERSEN is a limited liability partnership of licensed professional accountants with offices located worldwide, including Phoenix, Arizona.
- 3. ARTHUR ANDERSEN, since 1984, served as the auditor of the Baptist Foundation of Arizona ("BFA"). In each year from 1984 through 1997 ARTHUR ANDERSEN issued an unqualified (clean) opinion on the Combined Financial Statements of BFA. ARTHUR ANDERSEN also issued unqualified opinions on certain BFA subsidiaries including The Foundation Companies, Inc. f/k/a Foundation Development Corporation ("TFCI"). In addition to audit work, at various times from 1984 through 1998 ARTHUR ANDERSEN performed tax and consulting services for BFA.
- 4. By issuing unqualified opinions from 1984 through 1997, ARTHUR ANDERSEN was giving assurance that (i) it had audited BFA's financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards ("GAAS")², (ii) it had planned and performed the audits to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free of material misstatement whether caused by error or fraud, (iii) in its opinion, BFA's financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of BFA in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP")³ and (iv) ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audits provided a reasonable basis for its opinions.⁴

When years are used in this Notice (1984 through 1997) the Notice is referring to the calendar year ending December 31 and the audit performed on that year by ARTHUR ANDERSEN. For example, 1997 refers to the calendar year ending December 31, 1997 and the audit performed by ARTHUR ANDERSEN through its opinion date of April 27, 1998.

GAAS are the standards, as opposed to particular procedures, promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants which concern the auditor's professional qualities and the judgment exercised by him in the performance of his financial statement examination (audit) and in his report (opinion).

GAAP are the conventions, rules and procedures necessary to define accepted accounting practices at a particular time. GAAP includes both broad and specific guidelines. The primary source of GAAP is the Financial Accounting Standards Board.

Separate opinions were also issued by ARTHUR ANDERSEN for certain BFA subsidiaries, including TFCI. When BFA financial statements are referred to in this Notice, the reference is intended to include separate financial statements of BFA subsidiaries, including TFCI, where appropriate.

An auditor's workpapers serve both as tools to aid the auditor in performing his work, and as written evidence of the work done to support the auditor's report (opinion). Statement on Auditing Standards No. 41 (Working Papers) provides authoritative guidance on the functions and nature, general content, and ownership and custody of workpapers.

5. Jay S. Ozer was the lead audit partner on the BFA audit engagement from 1992 through 1998. Ann M. McGrath was the lead audit manager on the BFA audit engagement from 1991 through 1998 and had been on the BFA engagement since 1988. Alan P. Hague was the tax partner on the engagement from at least 1997 through 1998.

III.

FACTS

- 6. In or about 1994 ARTHUR ANDERSEN began encountering an increasing number of significant warning signs that the management of BFA was perpetrating a financial fraud upon investors. During the 1996 audit, a former BFA employee provided disturbing information to ARTHUR ANDERSEN about the financial operations of BFA that confirmed what the warning signs had previously suggested. Soon after learning this information, ARTHUR ANDERSEN attempted to change its audit approach and obtain the data needed to confirm or deny the allegations of the former BFA employee. BFA's senior management refused, however, to produce the information ARTHUR ANDERSEN requested. At this point, instead of taking all steps necessary to either confirm or deny what was now a credible allegation of financial fraud, ARTHUR ANDERSEN simply accepted what limited information BFA senior management provided and issued a clean audit opinion for 1996.
- 7. Even when the allegations of fraud by BFA senior management became public through a series of articles in the *New Times*, a weekly newspaper based in Phoenix, Arizona, both during and after the 1997 audit, ARTHUR ANDERSEN did not take any steps to address, in a serious or meaningful manner, the evidence of financial improprieties. In fact, there is evidence that ARTHUR ANDERSEN purposefully modified its audit workpapers⁵ or failed to include information in its audit workpapers that displayed knowledge of the fraud that was being

perpetrated on the investing public. Ultimately, by its actions and inaction, ARTHUR ANDERSEN misled the BFA Board of Directors by continuing to issue unqualified opinions on the audited financial statements. The BFA Board of Directors, in turn, continued to offer securities to the public based on the clean audit opinions. ARTHUR ANDERSEN thus facilitated the perpetuation of the financial fraud upon investors.

8. For the reasons set forth in detail in this Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing ("Notice"), ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit opinions on BFA's financial statements were materially false and misleading. ARTHUR ANDERSEN either knew or should have known that its audit opinions and the financial statements of BFA were false and misleading. Further, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew or should have known that (i) it did not conduct its annual audits in accordance with GAAS; (ii) it did not plan and perform its audits in a manner to obtain reasonable assurance that BFA's Combined Financial Statements were free of material misstatement; (iii) BFA's Combined Financial Statements did not present fairly the financial position of BFA in conformity with GAAP; and (iv) it did not have a reasonable basis for its unqualified audit opinions. Finally, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew or should have known that BFA's Board of Directors relied on ARTHUR ANDERSEN's unqualified audit opinions on BFA's financial statements each year in deciding to issue new securities to investors.

A. Overview of the Baptist Foundation of Arizona

- 9. BFA was organized as an Arizona nonprofit corporation and conducted some of its activities under the name Christian Investment Services, Inc. As a nonprofit corporation, BFA had no shareholders but had members who included the accredited messengers to the annual meeting of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention ("Convention"), the Executive Board of the Convention, and the Board of Directors of BFA. A twenty-one member Board of Directors, elected by the messengers to the annual meeting of the Convention, purportedly governed BFA.
- 10. In 1982, William P. Crotts ("Crotts") became the President of BFA and continued in that position until his termination in August 1999. Donald D. Deardoff ("Deardoff"), who

began his employment with BFA in 1980, served as Senior Vice President and Treasurer/Controller of BFA until his termination in August 1999. Thomas D. Grabinski ("Grabinski"), who began his employment with BFA in 1988, served as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of BFA until his termination in August 1999.

- 11. In July 1999, staff of the Division and the Arizona Attorney General's office met with counsel for BFA, Arizona Southern Baptist New Church Ventures, Inc. ("New Church Ventures"), Christian Financial Partners, Inc. ("Christian Financial Partners"), A.L.O., Inc. ("ALO") and E.V.I.G., Inc. ("EVIG") and notified them that they believed that these entities were operating an accounting and securities fraud and that the offering documents given to investors were false and misleading. These initial meetings led the three issuers of securities, BFA, New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners, to enter into a consent order to cease and desist on August 10, 1999. A copy of the cease and desist order issued by the Commission is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. On August 28, 1999, the BFA Board of Directors terminated the employment of Crotts, Grabinski and Deardoff. Henceforth in this Notice, Crotts, Grabinski and Deardoff may individually and/or collectively be referred to as "Senior Management".
- 12. BFA, New Church Ventures, ALO and EVIG, through BFA's Senior Management, were operating a variation of a ponzi scheme. Certain individual related parties assisted Senior Management in perpetuating the ponzi scheme. These individuals include: Harold Friend ("Friend"), Dwain Hoover ("Hoover"), Jalma Hunsinger ("Hunsinger"), and Edgar Alan Kuhn ("Kuhn"). Henceforth in this Notice, Friend, Hoover, Hunsinger and Kuhn may individually and/or collectively be referred to as the "Individual Related Parties."
- 13. Hunsinger was reflected as owning all of the outstanding stock of ALO, which in turn owned, either directly or indirectly, the stock of all the corporate entities reflected on Exhibit 4. Kuhn became Secretary and Director of ALO in 1990 and remained an officer and director until

the BFA bankruptcy.⁶ Friend was reflected as President of Select Trading Group, Inc. ("Select") and many of its subsidiaries. Select is a subsidiary of ALO. Since its incorporation, ALO and its subsidiaries and affiliates acted as the primary "bad bank" used by Senior Management to hide the true financial condition of BFA. Although Hunsinger, Kuhn and Friend appear on corporate documents as officers and directors of the ALO entities, Senior Management of BFA made all essential decisions affecting ALO.

- 14. Kuhn incorporated EVIG in May 1996 and was reflected as its sole officer and director. Kuhn was reflected as owning all of the outstanding stock of EVIG, which in turn owned the stock of all the corporate entities reflected in Exhibit 5. Since its incorporation, EVIG also acted as a "bad bank" for Senior Management. Although Kuhn appeared on corporate documents as officer and director of the EVIG entities, Senior Management made all essential decisions affecting EVIG.
- 15. The organization charts of BFA, New Church Ventures, ALO and EVIG as they existed at the time of the filing of the bankruptcy petition are attached as Exhibits 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively.⁸ Henceforth in this Notice, New Church Ventures, ALO and EVIG may individually and/or collectively be referred to as the "Entity Related Parties."

B. Representations by the Baptist Foundation of Arizona

16. From at least the mid-1980s through July 1999, BFA, TFCI, New Church Ventures and/or Christian Financial Partners offered and sold securities to investors located in Arizona and throughout the United States and several foreign countries. The principal amount of securities

On November 9, 1999, BFA, New Church Ventures, ALO and EVIG filed a petition for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. In documents filed with the Bankruptcy Court, BFA estimated that assets of all entities totaled \$220 to \$260 million, with liabilities due to investors approximating \$590 million.

[&]quot;Bad bank" is a term used by BFA insiders to describe the entities, New Church Ventures, ALO and EVIG, that were used to get non-performing assets off of the books of BFA or to otherwise facilitate a transaction that benefited BFA but not the "bad bank".

Henceforth in this Notice, when referring to BFA, New Church Ventures, ALO or EVIG the defined term includes the entity and any of its subsidiaries and affiliates as reflected on the attached organization charts.

The term "Related Party" as used in this Notice is intended to be defined as in the accounting and auditing authoritative pronouncements pertaining to related parties and related party transactions including Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 57.

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offered and sold grew dramatically over the years and at the time of bankruptcy the amount due to investors was approximately \$590,000,000.

- 17. The securities offered and sold by BFA, New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners were offered through "Offering Circulars" and "Offering Circular Supplements". The Offering Circulars and Offering Circular Supplements set forth a detailed description of the particular security being offered, the terms of the investments, including repayment and reinvestment options, and the purposes for which the proceeds of the investments would be used. Each BFA Offering Circular Supplement included a set of the most recent Combined Financial Statements. In the Offering Circular Supplements dated in 1996 and 1997 the Combined Financial Statements (marked unaudited) were identical (with some changes to footnotes) to the Combined Financial Statements audited by ARTHUR ANDERSEN. In the Offering Circular Supplement dated in 1998 the Combined Financial Statements (marked unaudited) were identical to the Combined Financial Statements audited by ARTHUR ANDERSEN. The Combined Financial Statements were incorporated in the Offering Circulars and Offering Circular Supplements after ARTHUR ANDERSEN had issued its unqualified audit opinions on the Combined Financial Statements. The Board of Directors of BFA relied on ARTHUR ANDERSEN's issuance of unqualified audit opinions in determining whether to issue new investments each year.
- 18. Each year from 1988 through 1997 BFA reported in its Combined Financial Statements that its revenue exceeded its expenses (net income or increase in net assets) ("net income"). These financial statements reflected that BFA had net income of \$345,042 in 1988; \$1,968,746 in 1989, \$1,256,610 in 1990, \$842,246 in 1991, \$1,120,484 in 1992, \$2,872,540 in 1993, \$458,577 in 1994, \$1,599,020 in 1995, \$1,172,822 in 1996, and \$2,543,271 in 1997.

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- 19. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's unqualified audit opinion and the Combined Financial Statements were bound in "brown cover" copies, which were provided to BFA each year. The number of copies provided to BFA was based upon requests made by BFA. The number of the brown covers given to BFA each year was substantially more than would be needed for BFA management and the BFA Board of Directors. Upon request, an investor could obtain a brown cover of the BFA Combined Financial Statements with ARTHUR ANDERSEN's opinion.
- 20. Included within the brown cover each year was a letter to the BFA Board of Directors from Crotts as President of BFA (the "President's Letter"). ARTHUR ANDERSEN never performed any audit testing on the information contained in the President's Letter and never limited its opinion so as not to include the President's Letter.
- 21. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's unqualified opinion on the TFCI financial statements was included in various private offering memoranda pertaining to TFCI Note Trusts. Funds were raised from the public in reliance on the TFCI private offering memoranda.
- 22. BFA's Combined Financial Statements with ARTHUR ANDERSEN's unqualified audit opinion were contained in the yearly "Book of Reports" and a document called the "Annual" issued by the Convention. The Book of Reports was available to messengers to the annual conference of the Convention and to others upon request. The Annual contained everything in the Book of Reports (including the Combined Financial Statements of BFA with ARTHUR ANDERSEN's unqualified audit opinion) plus other material such as church statistics. In each year since 1991, hundreds of copies of the Book of Reports and the Annual were distributed. Further, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that its name was used in promotional literature that was widely distributed and given to investors.

[&]quot;Brown cover" is the term used by ARTHUR ANDERSEN to describe the bound financial statements given to its clients. The term brown cover comes from the fact that cover pages of the report are brown in color. Separate brown covers were issued for certain BFA subsidiaries, including TFCI.

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C. Representations by Arizona Southern Baptist New Church Ventures, Inc. and Christian Financial Partners, Inc.

- 23. BFA acted as a custodian for funds in Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). As custodian, BFA could not direct funds to its own investment products. This fact led BFA management to create New Church Ventures and later Christian Financial Partners. As an IRA custodian, BFA owed a fiduciary obligation to the IRA investors who placed their funds with New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners. BFA performed all of the marketing of New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners investment products. New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners emphasized "stewardship investing" which purportedly enabled individuals through IRAs to invest for themselves and Southern Baptist churches or Christian ministries. New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners ostensibly had a single mission, which was to raise funds for the financing of Southern Baptist churches or Christian ministries. New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners purportedly loaned funds to Southern Baptist churches and made other investments they deemed prudent.
- 24. New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners were incorporated in Arizona in 1984 and 1996, respectively, as nonprofit corporations. As nonprofit corporations, New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners had no shareholders.
- 25. Hunsinger incorporated New Church Ventures, and was a Director through August 1999. Kuhn was a Director of New Church Ventures from 1990 until August 1999. Kuhn was a Director and President of Christian Financial Partners since its incorporation in 1996.
- 26. Securities Offering Circulars and Offering Circular Supplements represented that Hunsinger was President of New Church Ventures from 1987 (other documents state that Hunsinger was President since 1984) to 1997. Kuhn served as Vice President of New Church Ventures from 1990 to 1997 and as Secretary from 1992 to 1997. Kuhn was made President of New Church Ventures in 1997.
 - 27. New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners had no paid staff, but

contracted with Foundation Administrative Services, Inc. ("FAS") and/or TFCI, both subsidiaries of BFA, to provide management services under "Management Services Agreements". Pursuant to these agreements, BFA received significant fees for the management of the IRA funds invested with New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners.

- 28. The Management Services Agreements required FAS and/or TFCI to perform management services for New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners, to provide marketing services for fund raising (the selling of IRA investments), to administer the church loan program and to render regular financial and other reports.
- 29. New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners were controlled by Senior Management. This allowed Senior Management to use New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners investor IRA funds to further the ponzi scheme being perpetrated by Senior Management to hide the true financial condition of BFA. This was accomplished by loaning IRA funds to ALO and EVIG so that they could appear to remain current on loans they owed to BFA.
- D. Overview of the Fraud that Arthur Andersen Ignored or Willfully Failed to Discover
- 30. BFA in the 1980s began investing heavily in real estate and notes receivable collateralized by real estate primarily located in the Phoenix area.
- 31. By 1988, BFA was disclosing in its audited Combined Financial Statements that the Phoenix area had been adversely affected by difficult economic conditions. This disclosure continued through the audited Combined Financial Statements for 1992. In spite of the difficult economic conditions, the audited Combined Financial Statements for 1988 through 1992 indicated that BFA management believed "that the carrying value of the real estate [was] not in excess of its net realizable value." In fact, the value of BFA's real estate holdings had declined significantly by the late 1980s and early 1990s.
- 32. By 1988, senior management had to decide whether to (i) write down BFA's real estate holdings to their true value and disclose the precarious financial condition of BFA to the BFA Board of Directors and BFA's investors or (ii) hide the true facts from the Board and the

investors. Senior Management chose the latter course of action to the great detriment of investors.

- 33. Senior Management and the Individual Related Parties used ALO and EVIG to hide the true financial condition of BFA and New Church Ventures. BFA insiders referred to the Entity Related Parties as the "bad banks."
- 34. Initially, BFA "sold" its bad assets (overvalued real estate) to the "bad banks" or to the Individual Related Parties so that BFA (an entity audited by ARTHUR ANDERSEN) would not be required to write the assets down and recognize a loss in accordance with GAAP on its Combined Financial Statements. BFA sold these assets either at book value or at a profit even though the actual fair market value of the assets was significantly lower than the amount recorded on BFA's books. These transactions usually occurred in the last month (December) of each calendar year in order for BFA to create income, or to avoid loss. Over time, this system of orchestrating the sale of assets at either book value or at a gain at year-end to make BFA appear profitable became the normal mode of operations for BFA. Without these fabricated transactions, BFA would have lost money each year. The Entity Related Parties and Individual Related Parties who facilitated transactions with BFA did not have any of their own funds at risk in the transactions.
- 35. In addition to the bogus transactions that were structured between BFA and the Entity Related Parties, Friend and Hoover made purported "gifts" to BFA at year-end in order for BFA to recognize income. These gifts often involved real estate, or stock in controlled corporations, owned by Friend and Hoover. The value placed on the real estate and stock was speculative and often not properly supported by independent appraisals.
- 36. Because ALO and EVIG had few liquid assets, they borrowed money from either New Church Ventures, Christian Financial Partners (IRA investors' money) or directly or indirectly from BFA itself to facilitate their transactions with BFA. Generally, when the Entity Related Parties or the Individual Related Parties purchased assets from BFA they made a small cash down payment (usually provided directly or indirectly by New Church Ventures) and

borrowed the remainder from BFA through a carry-back note. ALO (the primary "bad bank") had to borrow more and more money to pay the debt service on the promissory notes and to facilitate new transactions with BFA. This ability of ALO to borrow more funds from New Church Ventures allowed the notes receivable on BFA's books to appear as if they were performing as agreed.

37. As a result of the fraudulent scheme, ALO's debt increased each year from 1989 through 1997 (primarily owed to BFA and New Church Ventures) and its deficit from operations likewise increased.

	ALO LOSS FOR YEAR ¹¹	ALO ACCUMULATED DEFICIT ¹²	ALO DEBT AT YEAR-END ¹³
12/31/89	(\$961,000)	(\$961,000)	\$6,771,000
12/31/90	(\$7,291,000)	(\$8,252,000)	\$31,382,000
12/31/91	(\$4,076,000)	(\$12,328,000)	\$58,550,000
12/31/92	(\$33,914,000)	(\$46,242,000)	\$84,395,000
12/31/93	(\$9,899,000)	(\$56,141,000)	\$112,337,000
12/31/94	(\$14,040,000)	(\$70,077,000)	\$134,396,000
12/31/95	(\$23,321,000)	(\$94,150,000)	\$197,239,000
12/31/96	(\$21,533,000)	(\$115,720,000)	\$251,651,000
12/31/97	(\$22,220,000)	(\$138,938,000)	\$260,064,000

ALO's true financial condition was actually worse than portrayed by its unaudited consolidated financial statements because ALO held overvalued, and in some cases non-existent, assets on its books which should have been written down or written off.

38. A fraud of this duration (ALO was created in 1988) and magnitude (potential investor losses could exceed \$350,000,000) could not have occurred without ARTHUR

From ALO's unaudited Consolidating Income Statements for the year reflected.

From ALO's unaudited Consolidating Balance Sheets at year-end.

Includes credit lines and notes payable as reflected on the unaudited ALO Consolidating Balance Sheets.

ANDERSEN knowingly or recklessly ignoring the repeated warnings, or "red flags" uncovered during its audits. These red flags should have caused ARTHUR ANDERSEN to significantly expand its audit scope and determine the true relationship of BFA to New Church Ventures, ALO and EVIG.

39. Had ARTHUR ANDERSEN conducted its audits in accordance with GAAS, it would have discovered that BFA assets were substantially overstated due to net realizable value issues. Instead, for years ARTHUR ANDERSEN ignored repeated warning signs and did not perform its audits in accordance with GAAS. ARTHUR ANDERSEN did not take appropriate steps to prevent the deliberate misstatement of BFA's financial results in direct contravention of GAAS. ARTHUR ANDERSEN did not significantly expand its audit scope pertaining to the realizability of BFA assets until its audit of the December 31, 1998 Combined Financial Statements (which was never completed)¹⁴. By that time it was too late for investors.

E. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's Involvement

1. Overview of Involvement of and Facts Known to ARTHUR ANDERSEN

- 40. ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that the Phoenix area real estate market was adversely affected by difficult economic conditions in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Beginning at least as early as 1991, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that certain real estate properties on the books of BFA had not been appraised for several years. Further, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that BFA sold those real estate properties at amounts greater than or equal to book value to Hunsinger (ALO).
- 41. From at least 1991, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that BFA consistently had losses from operations during most of the year and ended up with net income at year-end through transactions primarily with Individual and Entity Related Parties. In its workpapers ARTHUR ANDERSEN documented that BFA management appeared to have a philosophy of significantly

ARTHUR ANDERSEN did complete the audit of TFCI and issued a clean opinion for 1998. ARTHUR ANDERSEN withdrew its opinion after the fraud was brought to light in July 1999.

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25 26 managing reported financial results by selling assets to related parties or obtaining gifts from related parties near year-end.

- 42. Beginning in 1984, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that Hunsinger was a related party because Hunsinger served as a BFA Board member and later was associated with ALO and served as an officer and director of New Church Ventures. From at least 1992, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that Kuhn was not only a prior BFA Board member but was an officer and director of New Church Ventures. From at least 1992, ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that ALO and New Church Ventures had no employees of their own but instead relied on subsidiaries of BFA to manage the day-to-day operations of those entities.
- 43. ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that BFA not only acted as the custodian of selfdirected IRA trust funds, but also received significant fees for managing the investment of those funds. This activity created a fiduciary relationship between BFA and IRA account holders that created significant issues pertaining to federal and state laws that ARTHUR ANDERSEN was obligated to address as part of GAAS. ARTHUR ANDERSEN also knew that BFA marketed the investment products offered and sold by New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners and that BFA managed the day-to-day operations of those entities. From at least 1991, ARTHUR ANDERSEN performed audit testing of BFA's Trust Department.
- 44. By 1994, ARTHUR ANDERSEN had reviewed a detailed listing of New Church Ventures Credit Corporation ("NCVCC")¹⁵ notes receivable and thus was aware ALO was the largest single creditor of both BFA and New Church Ventures. Nevertheless, ARTHUR ANDERSEN failed to determine the financial condition of ALO at this point even though it could have obtained balance sheets of ALO through the public record. (As noted in paragraph 37 above, ALO lost \$14,040,000 in 1994 and had an accumulated deficit at the end of 1994 of \$70,077,000.) A review of these records should have compelled a reasonable auditor to question how ALO was

NCVCC is a subsidiary of New Church Ventures. Most of the loans due to BFA from New Church Ventures were in fact due from NCVCC.

able to remain current on its obligations to BFA and New Church Ventures while losing millions of dollars each year. In addition, an auditor who had reviewed ALO's balance sheets should have questioned whether its testing in the trust area was sufficient to satisfy its stated objectives pertaining to IRA investor trust funds. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's stated audit objectives in the trust area should have detected the fact that BFA's Senior Management was fraudulently diverting IRA funds to ALO in order to perpetrate the ponzi scheme.

45. ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that from 1991 through 1997 the largest single asset category on the audited BFA Combined Balance Sheets was "Notes Receivable". ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that in every year from 1995 through 1997 the Entity Related Parties owed no less than 63% of total Notes Receivable. ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that from 1991 through 1997, Hunsinger signed virtually all of the Notes Receivable confirmations sent to ALO and New Church Ventures. ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that for 1996 and 1997 Kuhn signed the Notes Receivable confirmation sent to EVIG. The following chart shows the significance of the Entity Related Party Notes Receivable to the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1995 through 1997.

			Percentage of BFA
		Total Notes	Total Notes
	Total Notes	Receivable due	Receivable due
	Receivable per	from ALO,	From ALO,
For Year	BFA Combined	New Church	New Church
Ended December 31,	Balance Sheets	Ventures, and EVIG	Ventures and EVIG
1995	\$143,674,000	\$90,953,000	. 63%
1996	\$157,432,000	\$103,413,000	66%
1997	\$185,318,000	\$135,111,000	73%

46. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit approach related to BFA Notes Receivable varied from 1991 through 1997. From 1991 through 1993, ARTHUR ANDERSEN performed little audit work pertaining to the net realizable value of collateral purportedly securing Notes Receivable due to BFA from ALO and New Church Ventures. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN relied primarily

on the fact that Notes Receivable appeared to be performing and that ARTHUR ANDERSEN confirmed the account balances. In 1994 and 1995, ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit approach was modified to include a review of the underlying collateral purportedly securing Notes Receivable that were on "stop accrual." Stop accrual Notes Receivable are those that are delinquent on principal and/or interest payments and therefore the notes' realizability would be in question absent sufficient collateral. In 1996 and 1997, ARTHUR ANDERSEN began testing certain collateral purportedly securing the performing Notes Receivable.

- 47. When ARTHUR ANDERSEN did begin to review the underlying collateral purportedly securing performing Notes Receivable in 1996 and 1997, they largely ignored valuation issues brought to light by their own audit work. ARTHUR ANDERSEN consistently relied on Senior Management's representations to support the value of real estate and collateral for Notes Receivable when it should have been requiring third party verification of values including independent appraisals and reviews. ARTHUR ANDERSEN largely ignored valuation issues raised by its own appraisal expert.
- 48. ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that collateral for BFA Notes Receivable was routinely replaced by new or different collateral. ARTHUR ANDERSEN also knew that Notes Receivable due from ALO and New Church Ventures were routinely "recast" to extend the maturity dates when they became due and payable. This should have indicated to ARTHUR ANDERSEN that the Notes Receivable were impaired. Accordingly, ARTHUR ANDERSEN should have required BFA management to record writedowns in accordance with GAAP. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's methodology for testing of collateral in 1996 and 1997 was not in accordance with GAAS.
- 49. ARTHUR ANDERSEN never questioned, or ignored, how BFA's real estate was unaffected by the adverse real estate conditions and instead appreciated in value. Nor did the significant managing of income through year-end transactions with the Entity and Individual Related Parties cause ARTHUR ANDERSEN to change its audit approach to look at collateral

values securing performing Notes Receivable until 1996. Because ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew by the end of 1994 that ALO was the primary creditor of both BFA and New Church Ventures, ARTHUR ANDERSEN should have performed audit procedures to ascertain the true nature of the relationship of BFA to ALO and New Church Ventures. In addition, ARTHUR ANDERSEN should have been determining ALO's true ability to perform on its obligations to BFA and New Church Ventures.

50. While ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audits were seriously flawed in 1991 through 1994, beginning in 1995 the facts lead to the conclusion that ARTHUR ANDERSEN not only aided and abetted the securities fraud being perpetrated on investors but in fact may have directly or indirectly participated in that fraud.

2. Additional Warnings Known to ARTHUR ANDERSEN from 1995 through 1997 a. 1995 Audit Engagment

51. From at least 1991 through 1998, ARTHUR ANDERSEN issued separate unqualified opinions on certain BFA subsidiaries, including TFCI. ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that Ron Estes ("Estes") was the Chief Financial Officer of TFCI in 1995. By the end of 1995 Estes had been voicing to Senior Management his concerns about transactions with the Entity and Individual Related Parties. One particular transaction that occurred in December 1995 between BFA and Hoover allowed BFA to book in excess of \$4,000,000 in income that Estes viewed as "bogus". Estes concluded at that time that he would not sign the management representation letter to ARTHUR ANDERSEN if asked. In April 1996, as part of the 1995 audit of TFCI, ARTHUR ANDERSEN submitted to BFA a draft TFCI management representation letter requesting Estes' signature. Estes did not sign the letter, and ultimately ARTHUR ANDERSEN accepted a representation letter with Deardoff's signature replacing Estes'. Although normally the

A management representation letter is required to be obtained on every audit engagement. The representation letter is a written representation from management used to complement the auditor's other auditing procedures. Written representations from management ordinarily confirm oral representations given to the auditor and indicate and document the continuing appropriateness of such representations.

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chief financial officer of an audited entity is expected to sign the representation letter, ARTHUR ANDERSEN ignored or failed to question why, in this case, the letter was signed by an officer of the audited entity's parent corporation.

- 52. As noted in paragraph 46 above, in 1995 ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit approach to Notes Receivable included testing of collateral securing delinquent Notes Receivable. In the testing of the collateral purportedly securing the delinquent Notes Receivable, ARTHUR ANDERSEN relied almost exclusively on representations of Grabinski as to the value of the collateral. There is little documentation contained in ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit workpapers indicating that information independent of that provided by BFA management was obtained or reviewed. In fact, many of the statements made pertaining to collateral securing delinquent Notes Receivable in 1994 were simply carried forward to the 1995 audit workpapers. In addition, ARTHUR ANDERSEN placed substantial reliance on the fact that most of the delinquent Notes Receivable at December 31, 1995 were sold subsequent to year-end to EVIG or ALO at book value or at a profit. In other words, BFA was able to turn non-performing Notes Receivable into performing Notes Receivable by a "sale" to an Entity Related Party. ARTHUR ANDERSEN accepted these sales to Entity Related Parties as evidence that the delinquent Notes Receivable were fully realizable at December 31, 1995. ARTHUR ANDERSEN apparently ignored or never asked why EVIG or ALO would purchase non-performing Notes Receivable at book value or higher.
- 53. ARTHUR ANDERSEN apparently ignored or never inquired as to EVIG's financial condition or its ability to perform on its note obligations to BFA. Had such inquiries been made, ARTHUR ANDERSEN would have discovered that EVIG had not even been incorporated at the time of the purported sales of the delinquent Notes Receivable to EVIG. Further, ARTHUR ANDERSEN apparently did not inquire as to the ownership of EVIG. The purported owner and sole officer and director of EVIG was Kuhn. Kuhn was also an officer and director of both ALO and New Church Ventures and a former director of BFA. Therefore, EVIG

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and Kuhn should have been disclosed as additional related parties in the Combined Financial Statements, but were not.

b. 1996 Audit Engagement

- 54. Beginning in 1996, a number of employees of BFA, including accountants and an attorney, began expressing to Senior Management their concerns surrounding the transactions and relationships between BFA and the Related Entities. ARTHUR ANDERSEN had previous dealings with many of the accountants as part of their prior audit engagements. By the end of 1996, all of these accountants and the attorney had resigned from BFA as a result of their concerns that BFA financial statements were being deliberately manipulated and misstated by Senior Management. ARTHUR ANDERSEN recognized that the loss of key accounting personnel in 1996 caused additional audit risk.
- 55. One of the employees who resigned because of her concerns was Karen Paetz ("Paetz"). Paetz was an Accounting Manager of BFA whose responsibilities included maintaining the accounting records of both ALO and New Church Ventures. Paetz was therefore in a position to understand the true relationship of BFA to ALO and New Church Ventures. During the course of her employment with BFA, Paetz became concerned that BFA financial statements were being deliberately manipulated and misstated by Senior Management. Therefore, Paetz, along with other accountants at BFA, voiced their concerns to Senior Management. After Senior Management failed to take any corrective action. Paetz terminated her employment with BFA in approximately July 1996.
- 56. In February 1997, prior to or shortly after ARTHUR ANDERSEN began its yearend fieldwork pertaining to the 1996 audit, Paetz arranged a meeting with Ann McGrath ("McGrath"), who was the lead manager for ARTHUR ANDERSEN on the BFA engagement. During the course of that meeting Paetz provided McGrath with a detailed road map of the fraud that was occurring at BFA.

- 57. Specifically, Paetz disclosed the following to McGrath:
 - i) ALO had in excess of a \$100,000,000 deficit and was losing \$2,500,000 a month currently;
 - ii) To pay the interest due on loans from BFA, ALO had to turn around and obtain funds from BFA and New Church Ventures:
 - iii) EVIG was created to get non-performing loans off of BFA's balance sheet and Alan Kuhn was associated with EVIG (see paragraphs 52-53 above);
 - iv) Kyle Tresch could corroborate concerns with regard to a particularly troublesome transaction in 1995 involving Hoover (see paragraph 51 above);
 - v) Senior Management set up Rick Rolfes as bookkeeper of ALO and New Church Ventures to create the appearance that BFA was not in control of these entities;
 - vi) ARTHUR ANDERSEN should obtain the ALO and New Church Ventures financial statements along with a detailed listing of Notes Receivable on New Church Ventures' books;
 - vii) Paetz was one of a group of BFA employees that had concluded that Senior

 Management was not being honest to its Board, the Convention or

 ARTHUR ANDERSEN;
 - viii) A group of concerned BFA employees had confronted Crotts, individually and collectively, on several occasions and were convinced there would be no change in the way Crotts would conduct the business activities of BFA; and
 - ix) When the group of concerned BFA employees confronted Senior

 Management with their concerns on April 15, 1996, Senior Management
 never denied the accusations of the group.

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By February 1997, as a result of McGrath's meeting with Paetz, ARTHUR ANDERSEN had a clear picture of the fraudulent scheme being perpetrated at BFA.

- 58. After the meeting between Paetz and McGrath, ARTHUR ANDERSEN completely changed its planned audit approach for the 1996 audit. ARTHUR ANDERSEN determined it was necessary for them to (i) obtain and test NCVCC Notes Receivable including underlying collateral, and (ii) obtain the ALO and New Church Ventures detailed financial statements. This is precisely what Paetz told McGrath ARTHUR ANDERSEN needed to do to uncover the fraudulent financial manipulation that had been going on for years. Senior Management refused to turn over to ARTHUR ANDERSEN the NCVCC Notes Receivable listing and ALO and New Church Ventures detailed financial statements. Senior Management falsely told ARTHUR ANDERSEN that Hunsinger and the Board of Directors of New Church Ventures would not permit the release of the requested information. ARTHUR ANDERSEN never attempted to independently contact either Hunsinger or the Board of Directors of New Church Ventures to try and obtain the needed information. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN accepted the position as explained by Senior Management even though ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that BFA had kept the books of ALO and New Church Ventures and ARTHUR ANDERSEN had been provided the NCVCC Notes Receivable detailed listing in 1994.
- 59. When confronted with the fact that Senior Management was refusing to produce the very information that ARTHUR ANDERSEN needed to determine if a fraud was taking place, ARTHUR ANDERSEN should have considered this a major limitation of its audit scope. The auditors should have demanded the documents be produced, and when they were not, they should have withdrawn from the engagement.
 - 60. Had ARTHUR ANDERSEN received the documents and performed the planned

testing on NCVCC Notes Receivable¹⁷ and ALO and New Church Ventures financial statements,¹⁸ they would have uncovered the fraud that was placing hundreds of millions of dollars of investors' funds at risk. Had ARTHUR ANDERSEN withdrawn from the engagement, the result again would have been to bring the fraud to an end. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN decided to perform alternative testing of collateral purportedly securing performing Notes Receivable from ALO and NCVCC in the hopes this would provide them with comfort as to the realizability of Notes Receivable on BFA's books. This was the first time ARTHUR ANDERSEN had ever tested collateral purportedly securing performing Notes Receivable. This testing of collateral led ARTHUR ANDERSEN to conclude that the Notes Receivable at December 31, 1996 were "not adequately collateralized."

- 61. Although ARTHUR ANDERSEN was unable to obtain the very information it needed to confirm the fraud, and its alternative procedures led to the conclusion that the Notes Receivable on BFA's books were not adequately collateralized, there is no evidence that ARTHUR ANDERSEN performed any other audit procedures to verify the information provided by Paetz. ARTHUR ANDERSEN made no attempt to contact any of the other employees that left BFA in 1996 even though Paetz had specifically named key personnel who could confirm her allegations. Instead, on April 23, 1997, ARTHUR ANDERSEN issued an unqualified audit opinion on the 1996 Combined Financial Statements of BFA. At this point, ARTHUR ANDERSEN became a full participant in hiding the fraud being perpetrated on the investing public.
- 62. After ARTHUR ANDERSEN issued its unqualified audit opinion on the 1996 Combined Financial Statements of BFA, in excess of \$200,000,000¹⁹ of new investor money was

The critical memorandum detailing the planned (but never performed) NCVCC Notes Receivable testing never found its way into ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit workpapers.

ALO financial statements for the year ended December 31, 1996 would have indicated that ALO lost an additional \$21,533,000 in 1996 and had an accumulated deficit of \$115,720,000.

New investment here is measured by the net increase in investment liabilities outstanding and does not consider reinvestments (rollovers). Considering reinvestments would increase this figure significantly. For example, ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit workpapers indicate that in excess of \$73,000,000 was reinvested in 1996.

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raised by BFA, New Church Ventures and Christian Financial Partners.

c. 1997 Audit Engagement

(i) ARTHUR ANDERSEN's Lack of Compliance with SAS No. 82

- 63. For the 1997 audit engagement, Statement on Auditing Standard No. 82—Consideration of Fraud in a Financial Statement Audit ("SAS 82") was effective. In order to implement SAS 82, ARTHUR ANDERSEN created a firm-wide practice aid, form AP-125. The practice aid is essentially a checklist of "red flags" that signal a need to maintain a "heightened awareness" of fraud. In the BFA practice aid, ARTHUR ANDERSEN originally checked and subsequently erased some of the "red flag" boxes. The risks identified by ARTHUR ANDERSEN were summarized in a memorandum to the files dated February 24, 1998. The identified risks discussed in the memorandum included:
 - i) Allegations of misappropriation of assets;
 - ii) The continuing existence of a deficient accounting staff;
 - iii) The fact that Senior Management had a philosophy of significantly managing earnings;
 - iv) BFA's high dependence on debt (investor funds) and its vulnerability to interest rate changes;
 - v) Accounting valuations based on significant estimates involving subjective judgments or uncertainties;
 - vi) Significant related party transactions that are not in the ordinary course of business and may be difficult to verify substance; and
 - vii) Significant, unusual or highly complex transactions, especially those close to year-end.
- Once again, risk factors that ARTHUR ANDERSEN had consistently confronted in previous BFA engagements were identified as being red flags for fraud.
 - 64. ARTHUR ANDERSEN, based upon its SAS 82 evaluation, determined that "an

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audit response [was] required to address [the] risks." The engagement team was to maintain a "heightened awareness" of the potential for fraudulent reporting, misappropriation of assets and other illegal acts. The audit response was to include:

- i) Year-end transactions were to be reviewed closely due to management's known desire to achieve a net income in 1997.
- Significant estimates were to be identified and addressed through ii) verification of valuation estimates, review of BFA's investment and collateral monitoring procedures and ARTHUR ANDERSEN's use of outside appraisers to verify the reasonableness of significant appraisals.
- iii) Significant related party transactions throughout the year were to be reviewed and proper recording and disclosure was to be tested.
- 65. ARTHUR ANDERSEN did not in fact approach the audit with a heightened awareness. Quite the contrary, ARTHUR ANDERSEN had determined at the end of the 1996 audit that it could not afford to disclose the fraud. During the 1997 audit, ARTHUR ANDERSEN engaged in a full cover-up of this fact as evidenced below.
- 66. The February 24, 1998 memorandum indicates the allegations of misappropriation of assets arose from an anonymous telephone call to the Legal Group in ARTHUR ANDERSEN's world headquarters in Chicago. According to the February 24, 1998 memorandum, ARTHUR ANDERSEN's Risk Management Group reviewed the claims and found no evidence to support the allegations.
- 67. Contrary to what is reflected in the audit workpapers, McGrath documented in a March 24, 1998 memorandum that the call "to the firm's Legal Group in Chicago alleg[ed] a Ponzi scheme and the illegal sale of securities." This critical memorandum did not find its way into ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit workpapers. Instead, the complaint of a ponzi scheme and illegal sale of securities is reflected in the audit workpapers as an allegation of misappropriation of assets.
 - 68. Upon information and belief, in February 1998, Jay Ozer and Alan Hague met with

Crotts and Grabinski. One of the topics discussed at that meeting was the complaint received by ARTHUR ANDERSEN's world headquarters regarding BFA perpetuating a ponzi scheme. Ozer discounted the complaint regarding the ponzi scheme by indicating that ARTHUR ANDERSEN follows the money.

- 69. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's audit approach to address the significant valuation and realizability issues surrounding BFA's assets was to again test collateral purportedly securing Notes Receivable and the value of certain operating businesses and real property. This testing was performed through a judgmental selection of collateral and assets. As in 1996, ARTHUR ANDERSEN relied on BFA management estimates and discussions with BFA employees, including Grabinski, to support the estimated net realizable value of certain of the assets and collateral tested. ARTHUR ANDERSEN identified certain assets for which they could not identify external sources of information to support management's estimate of value. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's methodology for calculating the value of collateral on certain assets was not in accordance with GAAS.
- 70. Again in 1997, ARTHUR ANDERSEN asked for, and never received, financial statements of ALO. ALO's unaudited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 1997 indicated that ALO lost an additional \$22,220,000 in 1997 and had an accumulated deficit of \$138,938,000.

(ii) The April 1998 New Times Articles

- 71. In April 1998, prior to the completion of the 1997 audit engagement, a series of articles titled "The Money Changers" appeared in the *New Times*. The *New Times* articles contained serious allegations of fraud and insider dealings, mentioned specific questionable transactions and implied misdealing by Grabinski, Crotts, Hunsinger, Friend and Hoover.
- 72. ARTHUR ANDERSEN updated their SAS 82 analysis based on the *New Times* articles. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's approach to the allegations contained in the *New Times* was to have McGrath look at each perceived allegation contained in the articles, obtain BFA's response

and determine what work ARTHUR ANDERSEN had previously done that might address the allegations. ARTHUR ANDERSEN determined BFA's response by speaking to Grabinski, one of the key figures in the transactions questioned in the *New Times* articles. ARTHUR ANDERSEN carried forward its previously flawed audit work to a separate audit file labeled *New Times*, but did no new audit work to determine if the allegations regarding the transactions had any substance. Regarding one high profile transaction described in the *New Times* involving the Simms Tower in Albuquerque, New Mexico, ARTHUR ANDERSEN had evidence that the *New Times* allegations were true, and yet ARTHUR ANDERSEN failed to address that evidence. Had ARTHUR ANDERSEN performed any new independent audit work on the transactions discussed in the *New Times* it would have determined that its prior work was flawed and its prior clean opinions should be questioned and withdrawn.

73. The BFA Board of Directors was concerned with the allegations contained in the *New Times*. Consequently, the BFA Board directed management to have BFA's outside legal counsel review the allegations contained in the *New Times* articles and report to the Board counsel's findings. Counsel's findings were reported to the BFA Board in June 1998. Outside counsel consulted with ARTHUR ANDERSEN and were assured that ARTHUR ANDERSEN was "comfortable with the financial information of the Foundation as reported in the audited combined financial statements for 1995, 1996 and 1997." Further, the BFA Board was told that "because the *New Times* articles were published before Arthur Andersen had completed its audit for 1997, they specifically reviewed again the transactions mentioned in the articles and found no basis for adjusting the manner in which those transactions were reported in the audited combined financial statements for the Foundation."

(iii) The Special Risk Assessment

74. In 1997, ARTHUR ANDERSEN performed a special risk assessment concerning tax-related matters at BFA (the "Risk Assessment"). ARTHUR ANDERSEN was engaged to perform the Risk Assessment by outside legal counsel for BFA. As part of the Risk Assessment,

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25 26 interviews were conducted of BFA personnel and ARTHUR ANDERSEN audit and tax personnel. These interviews reflected an awareness of substantial New Church Ventures funds being loaned to Hunsinger (ALO). Further, the interviews reflect that McGrath did not believe ALO could be successful unless BFA functioned as its "bank".

- 75. In January 1998, ARTHUR ANDERSEN was completing the initial phase of the Risk Assessment and preparing to deliver its report to BFA. To assist in discussing "with BFA the difficult issues included in the report" an ARTHUR ANDERSEN tax manager and specialist (not from Arizona) who worked on the Risk Assessment prepared a document titled "Opinion of Exposures." The initial draft of the Opinion of Exposures identified what was described as the "BIG issue". The "BIG issue" concerned BFA's tax-exempt status. The initial draft also indicated that the "BIG issue" was "[o]ne that could affect our audit opinion and should be addressed."
- 76. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's BFA audit team had a responsibility to address the Risk Assessment in connection with its planning of the BFA engagement for 1997. The issues raised by the Risk Assessment called into question the availability of the exemption from registration of securities relied on by BFA. Further, BFA's exposure to an Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") audit and the risk of a resultant monetary settlement or loss of its tax-exempt status had potential direct and indirect effects on its financial statements. In fact, in April 1998, ARTHUR ANDERSEN staff informed Deardoff that the New Times articles along with the fact Hoover was being audited "significantly increase[d] the BFA's risk of IRS audit."
- 77. Instead of addressing the "BIG issue", Alan Hague, tax partner on the BFA engagement, directed that the reference to the "BIG issue" and its possible effect on the audit opinion be deleted from the Opinion of Exposures. The final draft of the Opinion of Exposures, in fact, deleted the reference to the "BIG issue" and its possible effect on the audit opinion.
- 78. In addition to the information it had ignored in 1996, ARTHUR ANDERSEN in 1997 knew it needed to (i) address a number of red flags of fraud associated with BFA's

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transactions; (ii) address whether BFA was operating a ponzi scheme and was selling securities illegally; (iii) further address the allegations contained in the *New Times*; (iv) adequately address the issues raised in the Risk Assessment; (v) obtain the ALO financial statements; and (vi) adequately test collateral purportedly securing BFA Notes Receivable. Instead of addressing these issues, ARTHUR ANDERSEN (i) attempted to hide the fact that a complaint regarding a ponzi scheme and illegal securities sales had been received, (ii) attempted to hide the fact that its Risk Assessment raised issues of audit concern, (iii) ignored direct evidence that the *New Times* allegations were correct and instead relied on the word of Grabinski to conclude the *New Times* allegations were unsupported without doing any new substantive audit work on transactions described in the *New Times*, (iv) requested and was denied access to the ALO financial statements, and (v) performed inadequate audit work on collateral.

79. Before it signed off on its audit opinion for the 1997 audit, ARTHUR ANDERSEN began allowing its name to be used in promotional materials that BFA gave to potential investors reflecting 1997 results. BFA represented that:

BFA's financial records are kept in accordance with General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Arthur Andersen, BFA's auditor for 14 years, audits the financial statements.

Outside auditors follow and trace all cash coming into BFA and how it is invested. Related-party transactions with benefactors are disclosed in accordance with GAAP in footnotes to the financial statements.

All BFA assets are recorded at the 'lower of cost or market value,' in accordance with GAAP, which ensures a conservative value for BFA's portfolio of real estate assets.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN knew that BFA included this information in its promotional materials because it maintained several copies of the promotional material in its workpapers.

80. On April 27, 1998 ARTHUR ANDERSEN issued an unqualified audit opinion on the 1997 Combined Financial Statements of BFA. By doing so, it facilitated the perpetuation of the fraud and the cover-up of the fraud.

(iv) The December 1998 New Times Article

- 81. In December 1998, the *New Times* published a final article in its series begun in April 1998. The information provided in the December 1998 article, and related documents, served to corroborate the information that ARTHUR ANDERSEN dismissed in its 1996 and 1997 audits. The articles pointed out that:
 - (i) The April 15, 1996 resignation letter of Kyle Tresch mentioned the ALO deficit problem (\$100,000,000 and growing by an annual loss of \$25,000,000) and the lack of full disclosure to the auditors. Tresch said that BFA was "raiding [New Church Ventures'] IRA dollars in order to supply the liquidity needed to mature the assets of ALO." Tresch noted the ALO assets were wholly insufficient to facilitate the debt owed to BFA and New Church Ventures. Tresch, an attorney, spoke of possible criminal liability of management.
 - (ii) The August 5, 1996 resignation letter of Rich Polley ("Polley"), Trust
 Accounting Manager and one of the accountants who was confronting
 Senior Management, mentioned New Church Ventures and ALO as being
 "bad banks" used to take losses to make BFA look like a "good bank." A
 separate memorandum to the files from Polley dated May 9, 1996 criticized
 the transfer of stop-accrual notes to a newly formed organization, EVIG (see
 paragraphs 52-53 above). Polley expressed concern that in the final analysis
 it was IRA money at risk in the transaction and pointed to the deficit
 problem at ALO.
 - (iii) The November 3, 1996 resignation letter of Mike Maxson ("Maxson"),

 Financial Services Accounting Manager for BFA and another accountant
 who was confronting Senior Management, expressed concerns about New
 Church Ventures and ALO acting as the bad banks for BFA. Maxson also

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raised the issue of possible civil and criminal liability on the part of Senior Management.

- 82. ARTHUR ANDERSEN prepared a three-column analysis of the December 1998 *New Times* article. The analysis covered two main issues: the effect of ALO's negative financial position on BFA's financial statements and the use of IRA funds to finance ALO and insider transactions. Except for pointing to its testing of collateral for BFA's notes receivable from ALO, ARTHUR ANDERSEN's analysis simply dismissed, point by point, the serious allegations made by the resignation letters of Tresch, Polly and Maxson by indicating "N/A".
- 83. GAAS required that ARTHUR ANDERSEN make a thorough investigation of the allegations being made by former BFA employees to determine whether they were reliable, and consider the effects on its audits of the prior years, especially 1996 and 1997. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN continued to ignore the evidence and dismissed serious allegations as being not applicable to its audit responsibilities.

IV. VIOLATIONS OF SECTION 44-1991 ARIZONA SECURITIES ACT

Fraud in Connection with the Offer and Sale of Securities

- 84. Each of the preceding paragraphs is incorporated by reference.
- 85. In connection with the offers or sales of securities within or from Arizona, ARTHUR ANDERSEN directly or indirectly: (i) employed a device, scheme or artifice to defraud; (ii) made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts which were necessary in order to make the statements made not misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made; and (iii) engaged in transactions, practices or courses of business which operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon offerees and investors. ARTHUR ANDERSEN's conduct included:
 - a) Issuing unqualified opinions on the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1991 through 1994 while failing to address the increasing number of significant warning signs it had that Senior Management of BFA was perpetuating a financial fraud (ponzi

- scheme) upon investors. ARTHUR ANDERSEN failed to address the warning signs even though by 1994 it knew the largest single creditor of both BFA and New Church Ventures was ALO, a company that was losing millions of dollars each year.
- b) Issuing an unqualified opinion on the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1995 while failing to address in a serious and meaningful way why the chief financial officer of TFCI would not sign the representation letter to ARTHUR ANDERSEN and why EVIG and ALO would buy non-performing Notes Receivable from BFA at book value or higher.
- c) Issuing an unqualified opinion on the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1996 while failing to address in a serious and meaningful way the credible allegation of financial manipulation and fraud raised by Paetz. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN accepted the limited information provided by Senior Management, even though it requested and was refused the very information that could have led to the fraud.
- d) Issuing an unqualified opinion on the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1997 while failing to address, in a serious and meaningful way the red flags of fraud brought to light by its own SAS 82 review.
- e) Issuing an unqualified opinion on the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1997 while failing to address, in a serious and meaningful way allegations made directly to ARTHUR ANDERSEN's world headquarters in 1997 that BFA management was operating a possible ponzi scheme and illegally selling securities. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN characterized the allegations as one of misappropriation of assets and made no mention of possible ponzi scheme or illegal securities sales in its 1997 audit workpapers.
- f) Issuing an unqualified opinion on the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1997 while failing to address in a serious and meaningful way allegations of fraud raised in the series of articles in the *New Times*. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN ignored

direct evidence that certain *New Times* allegations were correct and accepted the word of Grabinski that the allegations were without merit and relied on its previously flawed audit work.

- g) Issuing an unqualified opinion on the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1997 while failing to address in a serious and meaningful way the "BIG issue" raised by an ARTHUR ANDERSEN manager and tax specialist, even though the "BIG issue" was identified as one that could affect the audit opinion. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN tried to remove all evidence of the BIG issue from the Risk Assessment workpapers.
- h) Issuing an unqualified opinion on the BFA Combined Financial Statements in 1991 through 1997 while failing to address in a serious and meaningful way issues surrounding the value of real estate and collateral securing BFA Notes Receivable. ARTHUR ANDERSEN never even reviewed collateral purportedly securing performing Notes Receivable until 1996, at which time it concluded the Notes Receivable were not adequately collaterialized. Further, ARTHUR ANDERSEN ignored appraisal issues raised by its own appraisal expert. Instead, ARTHUR ANDERSEN consistently relied on Senior Management's representations to support the value of real estate and collateral for Notes Receivable when it should have been requiring third party verification of values including independent appraisals and reviews.
- through 1997 while failing to address in a serious and meaningful way the fact that BFA was not complying with its fiduciary obligations surrounding IRA trust funds.

 ARTHUR ANDERSEN's stated audit objectives in the trust area failed to detect the fact that BFA Senior Management was diverting IRA funds to ALO and was committing fraud with the IRA investors' money.

This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1991.

86. In connection with the offers or sales of securities within or from the State of Arizona, ARTHUR ANDERSEN aided and abetted the unlawful sale of securities by BFA in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1991.

V. VIOLATIONS OF A.R.S. § 44-1841

(Offer and Sale of Unregistered Securities)

- 87. Each of the preceding paragraphs is incorporated by reference.
- 88. From in or about February 1997, ARTHUR ANDERSEN aided and abetted the unlawful sales of securities by BFA in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1841. The securities offered or sold were in the form of notes and/or investment contracts and/or evidences of indebtedness, and were sold within or from Arizona.
- 89. The securities referred to above were not registered under A.R.S. §§ 44-1871 through 44-1875, or 44-1891 through 44-1902; were not securities for which a notice filing has been made under A.R.S. § 44-3321; were not exempt under A.R.S. §§ 44-1843 or 44-1843.01; were not offered or sold in exempt transactions under A.R.S. § 44-1844; and were not exempt under any rule or order promulgated by the Commission.

This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1841.

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VI.

REQUESTED RELIEF

The Division requests that the Commission grant the following relief against ARTHUR ANDERSEN:

- 1. Order ARTHUR ANDERSEN to permanently cease and desist from violating the Securities Act, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 44-2032;
- 2. Order ARTHUR ANDERSEN to take affirmative action to correct the conditions resulting from their acts, practices or transactions, including a requirement to make restitution pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 44-2032;

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3. Order ARTHUR ANDERSEN to pay the state of Arizona an administrative penalty of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation of the Securities Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2036; and

4. Order any other relief that the Commission deems appropriate.

HEARING OPPORTUNITY

ARTHUR ANDERSEN may request a hearing pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1972 and A.A.C. R14-4-306. A request for hearing must be in writing and received by the Commission within 10 business days after service of this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. ARTHUR ANDERSEN or its attorney must deliver or mail the request for hearing to Docket Control, Arizona Corporation Commission, 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. A Docket Control cover sheet must also be filed with the request for hearing. A cover sheet form and instructions may be obtained from Docket Control by calling (602) 542-3477 or on the Commission's Internet web site at www.cc.state.az.us/utility/forms/index.htm.

If a request for hearing is timely made, the Commission shall schedule a hearing to begin within 60 days from the receipt of the request unless otherwise provided by law, stipulated by the parties, or ordered by the Commission. If a request for hearing is not timely made the Commission may, without a hearing, enter an order against ARTHUR ANDERSEN granting the relief requested by the Division in this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format. To request an alternate format or an accommodation, contact Cynthia Mercurio-Sandoval, ADA Coordinator, voice phone number 602/542-0838, e-mail csandoval@cc.state.az.us. Requests should be made

	1 11 4 11 4 4 m a summa detion
1	as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.
2	Dated this day of September, 2000.
3	Dated this 27 day of September, 2000.
5	Mark Sendrow
6	Mark Sendrow
7	Director of Securities
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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2	CARL J. KUNASEK
3	Chairman Arizona Corporation Commission JIM IRVIN DOCKETED
4	Commissioner
	Commissioner AUG 1 2 1999
5	DOCKETED BY
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8	IN THE MATTER OF:
9	BAPTIST FOUNDATION OF ARIZONA;
10) DOCKET NO. S-2773A-99-000 ARIZONA SOUTHERN BAPTIST NEW
11	CHURCH VENTURES, INC.; and) DECISION NO. 6/8/
12	CHRISTIAN FINANCIAL PARTNERS, INC. ORDER TO CEASE & DESIST AND OTHER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION
13) AND CONSENT TO SAME Respondents.
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	I.
17	BAPTIST FOUNDATION OF ARIZONA; ARIZONA SOUTHERN BAPTIST NEW
18	CHURCH VENTURES,-INC.; and CHRISTIAN FINANCIAL PARTNERS, INC. elect to,
19	individually and collectively, permanently waive their right to a hearing and appeal under Articles 11
20	and 12 of the Securities Act of Arizona (the "Act") with respect to this Order to Cease and Desist and
21	Other Affirmative Action ("Order"); admit the jurisdiction of the Arizona Corporation Commission
22	("Commission"); and, without admitting or denying the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

contained in this Order, consent to entry of this Order solely for the purpose of settling this

proceeding, with the understanding that no part of this Order is to be considered an admission in this

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or any other proceeding.

II

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Baptist Foundation of Arizona ("BFA"), which conducts some of its activities under the name Christian Investment Services, is and was at all times material to this Order, an Arizona non-profit corporation, having its principal place of business in Maricopa County, Arizona and, at all times material to this Order, did business in, through and from Arizona and caused events to occur in Arizona out of which this Order arises. BFA has numerous subsidiaries and affiliates, many of which have subsidiaries or affiliates of their own. Attached hereto, as Exhibit "A" is a recent organization chart of BFA and its subsidiaries and affiliates. BFA has issued various securities as investment vehicles to the public.
- 2. Arizona Southern Baptist New Church Ventures, Inc. ("NCV") is and was at all times material to this Order, an Arizona non-profit corporation, having its principal place of business in Maricopa County, Arizona and, at all times material to this Order, did business in, through and from Arizona and caused events to occur in Arizona out of which this Order arises. NCV has numerous subsidiaries and affiliates, some of which have subsidiaries or affiliates of their own. Attached hereto, as Exhibit "B" is a recent organization chart of NCV and its subsidiaries and affiliates.
- 3. Christian Financial-Partners, Inc. ("CFPI") is and was at all times material to this Order, an Arizona non-profit corporation, having its principal place of business in Maricopa County, Arizona and, at all times material to this Order, did business in, through and from Arizona and caused events to occur in Arizona out of which this Order arises.
- 4. Over the years, BFA, NCV and CFPI have sold various securities investment products. All of the investment products are variations of short and long term collateralized promissory notes.
- 5. BFA also acts as custodian of funds contained in Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs).

 As a custodian, BFA can not invest funds in its own investment products. This fact led BFA

1 management to create NCV and later CFPI. 2 NCV and CFPI were incorporated in Arizona in 1984 and 1996 respectively as non-profit 3 corporations. The day-to-day activities of NCV and CFPI are conducted by the staff of 4 subsidiaries of BFA pursuant to management service agreements. 5 The Commission through its Securities Division and the Arizona Attorney General's Office 6 have been conducting and continue to conduct an investigation into the offer and sale of securities 7 by BFA, NCV and CFPI. The investigation to date reveals that the true financial condition of 8 BFA, NCV and CFPI has not been disclosed to the investing public. BFA, NCV and CFPI are . 9 cooperating with the ongoing investigation of the Securities Division and the Arizona Attorney General's Office. 10 11 There are currently in excess of 13,000 investors who as of December 31, 1998 have in 12 excess of \$483 Million invested in BFA, NCV and CFPI investment products. 13 III 14 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW** 15 9. The Arizona Corporation Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Article 15 of the Arizona Constitution and pursuant to the Securities Act of Arizona, A.R.S. § 44-1801 et 16 17 seq. 18 10. Respondents offered and sold securities within or from Arizona through material 19 misrepresentations and omissions of material fact, and engaged in transactions, practices or courses 20 of business in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1991. 21 22 IV. 23 **ORDER** 24 THEREFORE, on the basis of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the 25 Commission finds that the following Order is appropriate, in the public interest and necessary for 26 the protection of investors:

1 IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2032, that BFA, NCV, CFPI, their agents. 2 servants, employees, successors, assigns, and those persons in active concert or participation with 3 them CEASE AND DESIST from offering to sell or selling securities within or from the State of 4 Arizona in violation of the Securities Act. 5 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that BFA, NCV and CFPI shall on a reasonable basis, but no 6 less than every 45 days, send written updates to investors describing the steps their Boards and 7 management are taking on behalf of the investors. 8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that nothing in this Order shall be construed as an approval 9 by the Arizona Corporation Commission of the past, present or future conduct of BFA, NCV and 10 CFPI, and BFA, NCV and CFPI are prohibited from directly or indirectly representing anything to 11 the contrary. 12 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that BFA, NCV and CFPI continue to cooperate with the investigation being conducted and provide any and all documents requested by the Securities 13 14 Division and the Arizona Attorney General's Office. 15 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall become effective immediately upon the date set forth below. 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

The Commission shall retain jurisdiction in this matter and may in the future address issues 1 relating to possible restitution or rescission to investors in accordance with A.R.S. § 44-2032 and 2 Rule 14-4-308, possible administrative penalties in accordance with A.R.S. § 44-2036, and other 3 4 appropriate matters. 5 BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 6 7 8 9 **COMMISSIONER CHAIRMAN** 10 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I BRIAN C. MCNEIL, Executive Secretary of the Arizona Corporation 11 Commission, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be 12 affixed at the capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 12th day of Quarist 13 14 BRIAN C. MCNE 15 Executive Secretar 16 17 DISSENT 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER BY THE COMMISSION AND WAIVER OF HEARING

BAPTIST FOUNDATION OF ARIZONA, an Arizona non-profit corporation ("BFA"), ARIZONA SOUTHERN BAPTIST NEW CHURCH VENTURES, INC., an Arizona non-profit corporation ("NCV"), and CHRISTIAN FINANCIAL PARTNERS, INC., an Arizona non-profit corporation ("CFPI"), acknowledge that they have been fully advised of their rights to a hearing to present evidence and call witnesses. BFA, NCV and CFPI waive all hearing procedures and right to appeal provided by the Securities Act of Arizona with respect to this Order to Cease and Desist and Other Affirmative Action.

BFA, NCV and CFPI admit the jurisdiction of the Arizona Corporation Commission with respect to matters set forth in this Order and Consent.

BFA, NCV and CFPI neither admit nor deny the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained in this Order and Consent and enter into this Order and Consent solely for the purpose of settling this proceeding, with the understanding that no part of this Order and Consent is to be considered an admission in this or any other proceeding.

BFA, NCV and CFPI acknowledge that this Order resolves only that BFA, NCV and CFPI will cease offering and selling securities in violations of the Securities Act and no less than every 45 days send-written updates to investors describing the steps their Boards and management are taking on behalf of the investors.

BFA, NCV and CFPI further acknowledge that nothing in this Order shall be construed to restrict or preclude the Arizona Corporation Commission and the Arizona Attorney General's Office or any other agency or officer of the State of Arizona or its subdivisions from initiating other administrative, civil or criminal proceedings against BFA, NCV and CFPI, now or in the future, that may be related to any matter addressed by this Order and the Consent.

Further, nothing in this Order shall be construed to restrict the State of Arizona's right in a future proceeding to bring an action against BFA, NCV and CFPI related to facts not set

S-2773A-99-000

1	forth in this Order.
2	BFA, NCV and CFPI state that their entry into this Consent to Entry of Order is a
3	voluntary act and that no promise was made nor coercion used to induce them to enter into it.
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5	BAPTIST FOUNDATION OF ARIZONA, an Arizona non-profice corporation
6	
7	ba Why as anom
8	ITS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
9	
10	SUBSCRIBED TO AND SWORN TO BEFORE me this $\frac{q^{4h}}{h}$ day of
11	HUgust, 1999.
12	STEPHANIE DEBOLT Notary Public - State of ATTONA MARICOPA COUNTY NOTARY PUBLIC
13	My Commission Expires: My Comm. Expires Oct. 20, 2009
14	10/20/00
15	ARIZONA SOUTHERN BAPTIST NEW CHURCH
16	VENTURES, an Arizona non-profit corporation
17	BY Kalph Dyan
18	ITS Lee Treay
19	113 Let Y leag
20	SUBSCRIBED TO AND SWORN TO BEFORE me this 6 day of
21	Chegust, 1999.
22	Tysde (sleste Stelliste NOTARY PUBLIC
23	My Commission Expires:
24	7 7 1 - 6
25	Clug 31, 2002 OFFICIAL SEAL
6	LINDA-CELESTE PETERSON () NOTARY PUBLIC-ARIZONA () MARICOPA COUNTY ()
18	My Comm. Expires Aug. 31, 2002 (

S-2773A-99-000

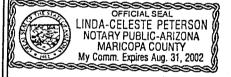
CHRISTIAN FINANCIAL PARTNERS, INC., an Arizona non-profit corporation

Sec/Treas

SUBSCRIBED TO AND SWORN TO BEFORE me this 6_ day of 1999.

NOTARY PUBLIC

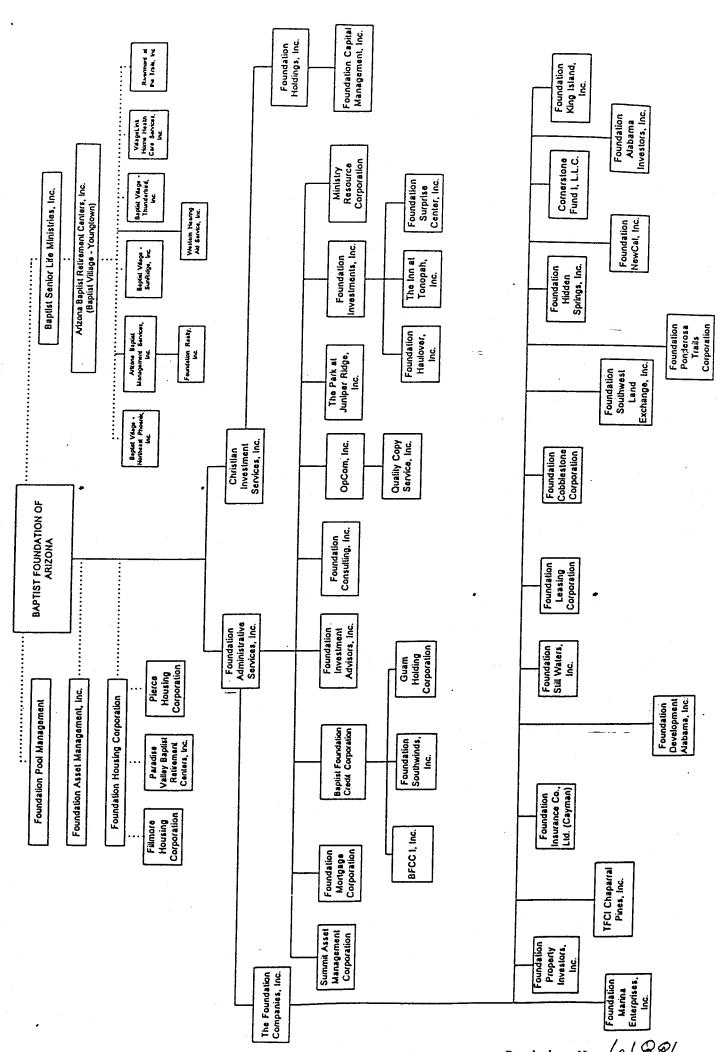
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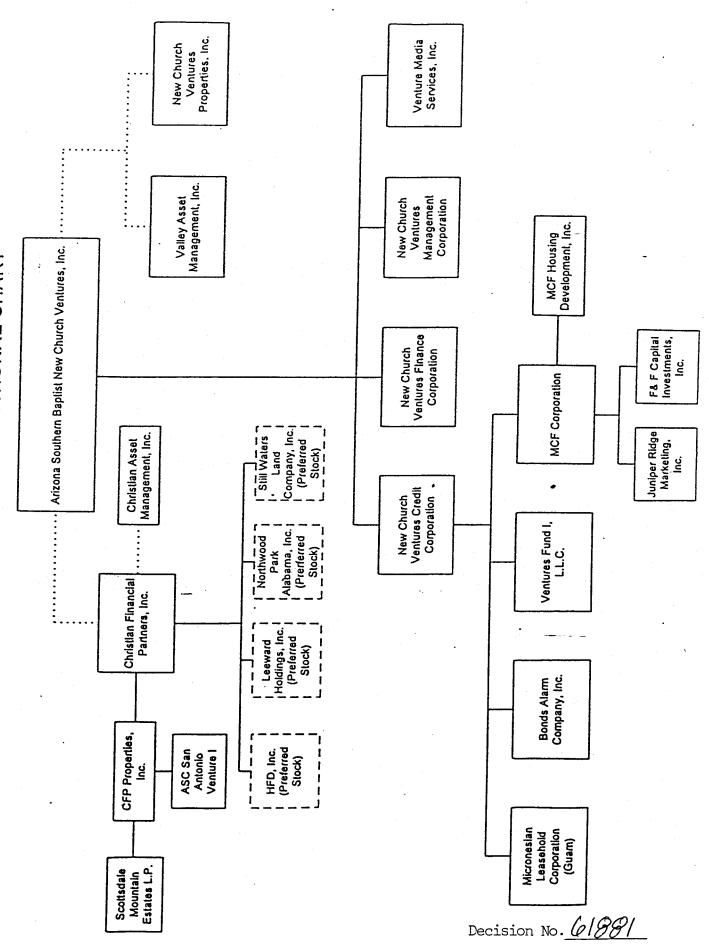
Decision No. 0/88/

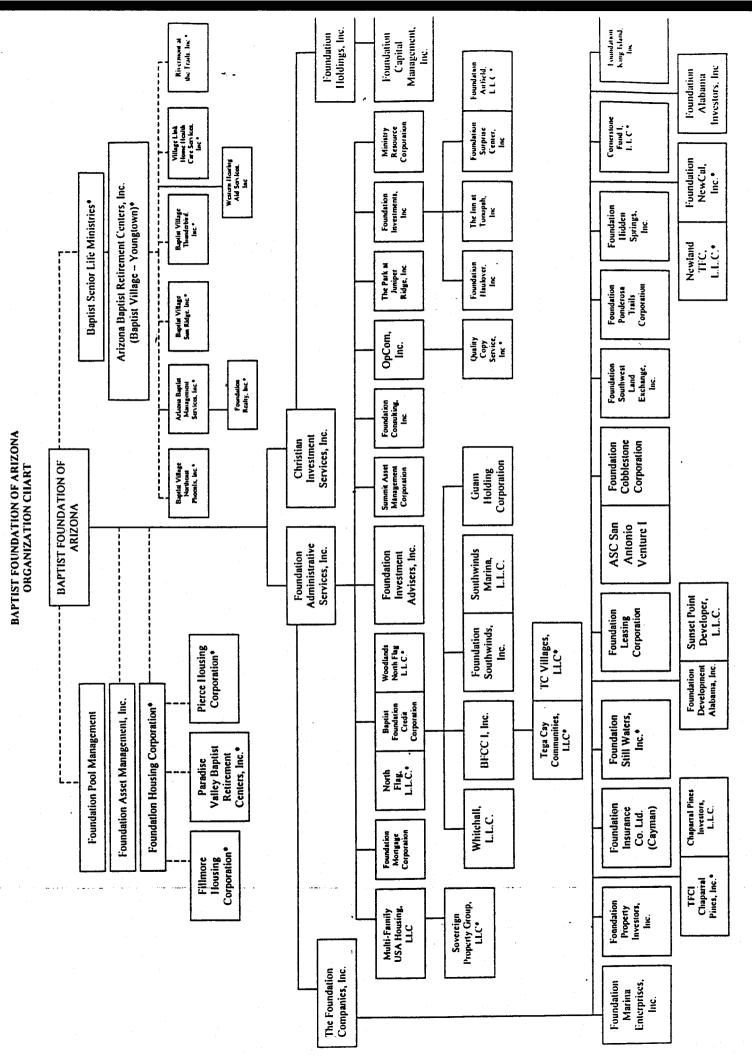
ABEE OF ORGANIZATION

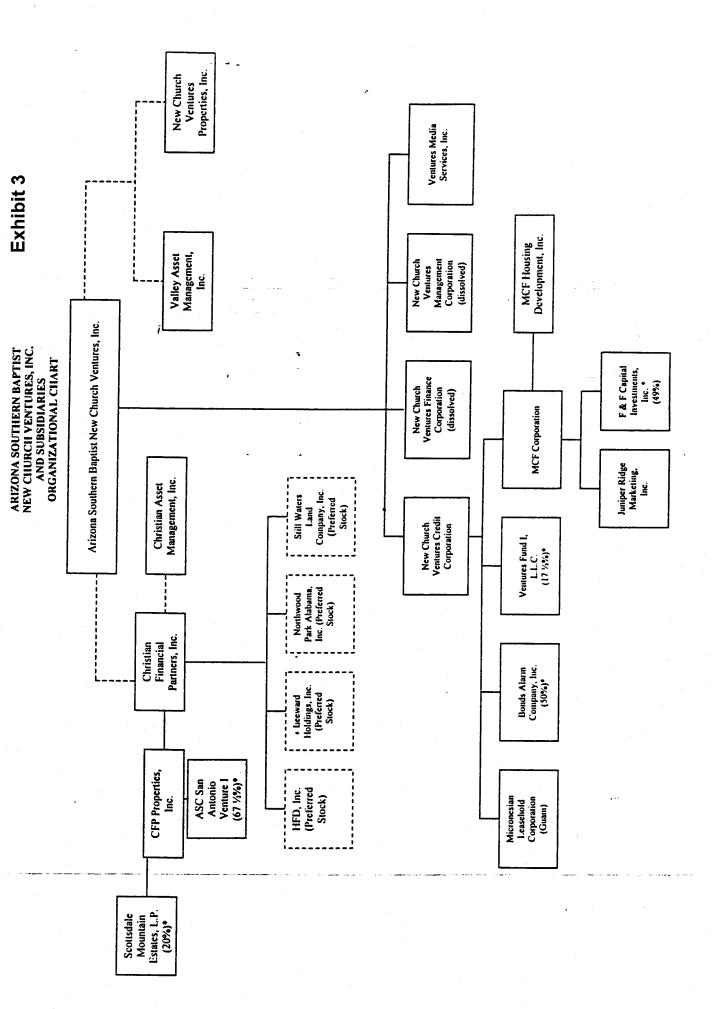
Exhibit A



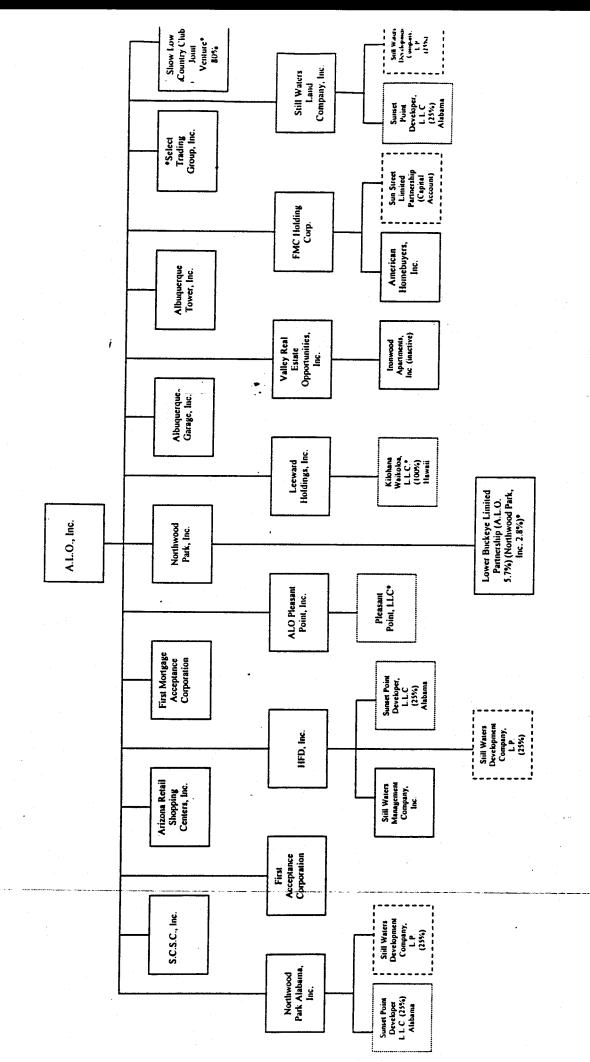
ARIZONA SOUTHERN BAPTIST NEW CHURCH VENTURES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES ORGANIZATIONAL CHART







A.L.O., Inc. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



E.V.I.G., INC. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

